

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A system for billing communication costs comprising:

- a server configured to communicate with an external PSTN network,
- a data communication network configured to support voice calls in IP-based mode, and
- a database configured to collect data relating to calls via said server and calls on said data communication network,

wherein at least one user interface selectively produces first configuration data pertaining to a plurality of corporate network sites, second configuration data pertaining to numbering plans for placing said calls, and third configuration data pertaining to billing plans for said calls;

said first, second and third configuration data pertaining both to voice calls and to data calls,

wherein the system further includes a system node configured to communicate with the database, the system node including:

- a processor; and

- memory storing instructions that when executed by the processor, causes the system node to perform:

- generating a classification module configured to classify the calls, wherein classifying the calls further include:

- sorting a call according to a source site of the call,

- for each group of calls sorted based on the source site, further sorting the call according to the called number, and

- allocating a class reference to the sorted calls based on the called number, wherein the class reference is one of: internal or external,

- generating a value module configured to calculate the costs of said calls based on the classification of the calls performed by the classification module, and

generating a report generating module configured to generate reports pertaining to costs of communications placed over said corporate communications network determined by said value module, said reports transparently referring both to voice calls and to data calls,

wherein the billing system is configured to calculate communication costs for a single, corporate telecommunications network including a plurality of sites.

2. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, further comprising a database for storing said first, second and third configuration data.

3. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said classification module is further configured to classify said calls according to at least one parameter chosen in the group of: source site of the call, called number, internal and external number of the call respect to said corporate telecommunications network.

4. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 3, wherein said classification module is configured to classify the internal calls over said corporate telecommunications network according to in-site calls and between-site calls.

5. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 3, wherein said classification module is configured to classify external calls over said corporate telecommunications network as one of: district calls, inter-district calls, international calls and mobile terminal calls.

6. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 2, wherein said database collects the amount of exchanged bytes in relation to said data communication network calls, and wherein said call value module calculates the cost of calls placed on said data communications network according to the amount of exchanged bytes.

7. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said third configuration data pertaining to billing plans includes at least one configurable parameter for voice calls chosen from: day, billing start time, billing end time, rate per unit of time and units.

8. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1 wherein said third configuration data pertaining to billing plans includes at least one configurable parameter for data calls chosen in the group comprising: list of corporate sites served by said data connection network, rates for transmitting a certain amount of data from one of said sites to all the others, annual and monthly fixed subscriber fee.

9. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said user interface comprises a controlling function for verifying the occurrence of one of the following events in said third configuration data: no rate value for a specific time window, double rate value definition for a certain time window and presence of a rate value for a certain time window.

10. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said user interface is configured to bill inbound calls over said at least one external PSTN telephone telecommunications network at zero cost.

11. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 2, wherein said value module bills calls over said server according to the rate identified by means of said third configuration data and according to the duration of the conversation collected in said database.

12. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said value module bills calls on said data communications network according to the number of bytes exchanged during the call and according to the corresponding third-configuration data generated by said user interface and pertaining to the source site and to the destination site of said data call.

13. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said value module firstly bills said calls by means of said server and then bills calls over said data connection network.

14. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said value module, with respect to calls placed over said data communications network, first bills between-site calls and then bills in-site calls.

15. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said report generating module is configured to generate reports which indicate, for each call, at least one parameter chosen from the group comprising: caller's number, called number, starting time of connection, source IP address, destination IP address, duration, source site, destination site, name of user placing the call, type of call and cost.

16. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said report generating module is configured to generate aggregated reports on the basis of at least one typology chosen from the group comprising:

cost, wherein calls sorted according to cost provide at least one of the following: caller's name, type of call, duration, cost, caller's name, called number and number of exchanged bytes;

duration, wherein calls sorted according to duration provide at least one of the following: caller's name, type of call, duration, cost, caller's number, called number and number of exchanged bytes;

typology, wherein calls sorted according to typology provide at least one of the following: caller's name, type of call, duration, cost, caller's number, called number and, for between-site calls, number of exchanged bytes;

traffic, for between-site calls, wherein calls sorted according to amount of exchanged data provide at least one of the following: caller's name, type of call, duration, cost, caller's number, called number, and number of exchanged bytes; and

user, wherein calls sorted according to user provide at least one of the following: caller's name, type of call, duration, cost, caller's number, called number and, for between-site calls, and number of exchanged bytes.

17. (Previously Presented) The system according to claim 1, wherein said report generating module is configured to generate desegregated corporate site specific reports.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:

a processor; and

memory storing instructions that when executed by the processor, causes the apparatus to perform:

generating a classification module configured to classify one or more calls, wherein classifying the calls further include:

sorting a call according to a source site of the call,

for each group of calls sorted based on the source site, further sorting the calls within the group according to a called number, and

allocating the sorted calls based on the called number a class reference, wherein the class reference is one of: internal or external,

generating a value module for calculating the costs of said calls wherein the value module calculates the costs of said calls based on the classification of the calls performed by the classification module and configuration data pertaining to a plurality of corporate network sites, and

generating a report generating module for generating reports pertaining to costs of communications placed over said corporate communications network determined by said value module, said reports transparently referring both to voice calls and to data calls,

wherein the apparatus is configured to calculate communication costs for a single, corporate network including a plurality of sites.

20. (New) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the instructions include at least one instruction that, when executed, performs:

allowing a single user to access administrative reports related to a call made from a terminal associated with the single user;

allowing a site manager to access documentation and statistics related to a site selected from the plurality of corporate network sites, the selected site corresponding to a corporate network site that the site manager is responsible for; and

allowing an administrator to access all information included in the generated reports.